

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion, is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this response, as the response places the application in clear condition for allowance or alternatively places the claims in better form for appeal. Specifically, Applicants have amended rejected independent claims to recite features similar to those recited in allowed claims.

Upon entry of this response, Claims 11-44 are pending; independent Claims 11-14, 23, 24, 26, 27, and 29-32 having been presently amended.

Applicants express thanks for the courtesies extended by Examiners Gonzalez and Tamai to Applicants' representative during a personal interview on December 4, 2003. Applicants respectfully submit that the Interview Summary (PTOL-413) mailed on December 8, 2003, includes the substance of the interview in accordance with the requirements of MPEP § 713.04.

Applicants also express thanks for the Examiner's indication that Claims 25, 28, and 33-41 are allowed. Further to the Examiner's allowance of these claims, Applicants have amended each of remaining independent Claims 11-14, 23, 24, 26, 27, and 29-32 to recite similar features. Specifically, each of independent Claims 11-14, 23, 24, 26, 27, and 29-32 has been amended to recite that " $P=m(3n\pm 1)$ in which m is the number of main poles of the stator for each phase and an integer not smaller than 1, or $P=k(6n\pm 1)$ in which $2k$ is the number of main poles of the stator for each phase and each of k and n is an integer not smaller than 1" and either the "number of rotor poles is $2P$ " or the "number of rotor teeth is P ," as recited in allowed independent Claims 34 and 25, for example. Further, dependent Claims 15-22 and 42-44 are allowable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims

from which they depend, as well as their own features. Thus, Applicants respectfully request the allowance of Claims 11-24, 26, 27, 29-32, and 42-44.

In the Office Action, Claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,628,891 to Asai et al. (Asai) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,051,898 to Sakamoto. Claims 13-15 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asai and Sakamoto, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,274,023 to Lamprey. Claims 23, 24, 26, 27, and 29-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asai and Sakamoto, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,763,034 to Gamble. Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asai, Sakamoto, and Lamprey, and further in view of 5,412,268 to Arnaud et al. Claims 20-22 and 42-44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asai, Sakamoto, Lamprey and Gamble. In response, Applicants respectfully assert that the above amendments to the claims have overcome the outstanding rejections.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 11-44 is earnestly solicited.

Application No. 09/915,335

Reply to Office Action of September 12, 2003

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Customer Number

22850

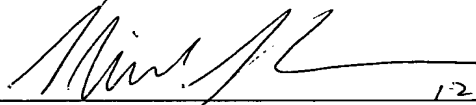
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(OSMMN 08/03)

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12-12-03

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